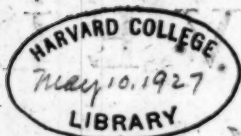


THE  
LOVELY  
Polander:  
A  
NOVEL  
OF  
Gallantry.

L O N D O N,  
Printed for John Kidge, at the  
Atlas in Cornhill.



Dexter fund

Prechac, L. M. de

901-62

1653



TO THE  
Right Honourable  
THE  
COUNTESSE

*Dowager of Ogle, &c.*

Madam,

**T**His stranger being desirous to appear in an English Garb, does humbly implore Your Ladiships Favour and Protection; assuring himself of meeting  
A 3 ing

## The Dedication.

ing with as agreeable a  
Reception here as he  
bath found in other  
places, if he can but pro-  
cure the being owned and  
countenanced by a Lady,  
in whom all the World  
does allow to be met and  
united all those Great and  
admired Qualities that  
have rendered the Re-  
nowned Family of Pier-  
cies so Illustrious. It  
was the Fame, Madam,  
of a Beauty beyond Com-  
parison, of a Wit with-  
out

## The Dedication.

out Affectation, with a  
thousand other Charms,  
that inspired him with  
the design of Sacrificing  
to so many Excellencies,  
and made him Ambiti-  
ous of receiving his Natu-  
ralization from Your La-  
disbip Hands. He is sensi-  
ble of the presumption of this  
Request, but imagines his  
Story to be made up of such  
Circumstances, as by giving  
Your Ladisbip some mo-  
ments Diversion, may move  
you to grant him both Your  
Pardon

## The Dedication.

*Pardon and Patronage. It was, Madam, the prospect of these advantages that inflamed his Vanity to the aspiring to this Address, and me proud of an occasion to declare the profound Respect with which I am,*

*Madam,*

**Your Ladiships**

**Most humble and  
most obedient Servant,**

**F. S.**

# THE Lovely POLANDER.

**T**HE *Polanders* have ever been very considerable for their Valour, their Nobility, and their good Meen, it being certain that the People in *Poland* are generally handsomer than all the other Nations of the Universe. Count *Waliski* Palatine of *Poland* had a Son of so surprising a Beauty, that he was looked upon with admiration by all the World. After that King *Casimir* had resigned the Crown, *Michael Winowski* was elected King of *Poland*: The Arch-Duchess of *Austria* the Emperour's Sister was married to the new King, and having heard talk of the Beauty of the young

*liski*, she had the curiosity to see him,  
 and desired the *Palatine* that he  
 might be educated near her, in the  
 Quality of *Mengin*, or Child of Ho-  
 nour. Count *waliski* being very  
 considerable both for his Extraction  
 and his great Estate, and not caring  
 for the favours of the Court, was  
 very loth to give her that satisfacti-  
 on. However, not daring to dis-  
 please so great a Queen, he resolved  
 at length to send her his Son. The  
 young *Palatine* was equally well  
 received at Court, and was found  
 much more beautiful than he had  
 been described; the Queen who had  
 brought into *Poland* several young  
*German* Ladies of Quality, through  
 curiosity shewed them the young *Po-  
 lander*, whom they found of a sin-  
 gular beauty, notwithstanding the  
 secret jealousy that it gave them.  
 Particular care was taken of his Edu-  
 cation, though he had little liberties  
 given him which his Companions  
 durst not have taken. The Queen  
 Maids

Maids of Honour took delight in seeing him, and were extreemly grieved that they could not discourse him, nor speaking the *Polish* Language, nor the young *Palatine High-Dutch*; however he loved to be with them, and saw them as often as he could find occasion. All these young Ladies, who called him the lovely *Palatine*, made him a thousand little Presents, which engaged him to be the more assiduoufly with them. As fruit is very scarce in *Poland*, the *Queen* coming one day from Table, gave an Orange to the beautiful *Polander*. This young Man, full of acknowledg-ment for the little Presents that the *Queens* Maids of Honour made him daily, resolved to give his Orange to some one of those Maids, without having any design to give it to one rather than another. *Beralda*, one of the Generals of the *Emperours* Forces, Daughter, presenting her self first to his sight, he gave her



his Orange. Her Companions came just as she was thanking him for it. This preference put them in pain, and that Orange had much the same effect, as the Apple of Discord, they all fancied that the *Palatine* found *Beralda* the most Charming : This raised their jealousy, and there needed no more to make *Beralda's* Companions be so many secret Enemies to her. They were very sure that the pretty *Palatine* had an inclination for her, and spoke to her so often of it, and after such a manner, as put her out of Countenance. The young *Palatine*, whom all the World drolled with upon his pretended inclination, begun to take no longer their Railleries for a Jest, and looked upon *Beralda* with more attention than formerly ; he found her so lovely, that notwithstanding the coldness of his temper, he entered from that time into an engagement which lasted as long as he lived. *Beralda* knowing very well that



that the charming *Palatine* had never made her any Declaration of Love, was displeased that all her Companions were telling her every moment of it, and their continual reproaches made her carefully avoid meeting him, hoping by this means that those Reports would insensibly vanish. The young *Polander* having observed this affectation, redoubled his pursuits, and confirmed by his carriage, all that had been said of his passion for *Beralda*; he followed her into all places, and what was only play in the beginning, became afterwards a real passion. He was in despair that he could not make known his Affection to her, otherwise than by his Actions, and thinking of the pleasure he should have, if he could discourse *Beralda*, and tell her the effect her Charms had upon him, he resolved to learn *High-Dutch*. *Beralda* finding the handsome *Polander* infinitely amiable, knew not how to explain

his assiduities. Sometimes she interpreted them to her advantage, a moment after she was afraid of being deceived, seeing no great likelihood that a young Man whom she had never spoke unto otherwise than by signs, in so tender an Age, should be touch'd with so delicate a Passion as Love; and yet she was sorry that she could not speak *Polish*, that she might inform her self of the real Sentiments of the Beautiful *Palatine*, imagining that she might thereby regulate her own, though she was already no longer Mistress of them, as appeared by the extream care she took to learn the *Polish Language* secretly: which she effected in a short time, to the great astonishment of a Lady who learn'd it her, and who knew not, perhaps, that Love is capable of all things, and that he has finer Methods for the learning a Foreign Language, than all the Masters in the World.

The young *Palatine* having already

ready made great progress in the *German Tongue*, sought for a favourable occasion to speak to *Beralda*, and having one day found her in the *Queen's Anti Chamber*, at some distance from her *Companions*, he accosted and spoke to her in *High-Dutch*. *Beralda*, both amazed, and overjoyed to hear his Discourse, flattered her self immediately that the lovely *Palatin* had learn'd *High-Dutch* for the love of her, and resolved not to tell him that she could speak *Polish*, for fear he should make the same construction of her, as she did of him. But as one of the *Maids*, her *Companions*, approached them, *Beralda* fearing she would take notice of the amorous discourse he held her, answered him in *Polish*, and desired him to leave off speaking *High-Dutch* to her. The *Palatin* surprized at this language, and becoming more bold, by the liberty his *Mistress* gave him, spoke to her in *Polish*, and said to her all

B. 4

that

that his love inspired him with *Beralda* being desirous to persuade her Companion that she did not understand him, told her that two *Polish* words she had learn'd by heart, obliged the young *Palatine* to make so long a discourse, and pretending to repeat the same words to her Companion, she assured her Lover that his Passion did not displease her. Love which does not use to make great Ceremony in the Northern Countreys, made however such a progress in the hearts of these young Lovers, that notwithstanding the coldness of the Climate, and their tender years, they loved one another with an extream passion. In the mean time the joy they had in that they were able to discourse together, was so apparent, that their correspondence was easily perceived. Which the Queen, being informed of, forbid all communication betwixt them, but particularly *Beralda*, whom she threatned to send back

back into *Germany*, if she ever heard she had looked upon the lovely *Polander*. It seemed as if this order had entirely suspended the passion of these two Lovers, for whether that *Beralda* was afraid of the Queens Anger, or that the young *Palatine* apprehended to displease his Mistress, they both seemed very still, and it was never known what measures they took together, to deceive the Publick, it being certain that their intrigue still continued, though since that time there was never any suspicion had of their correspondence. The young *Palatine* being at an Age to serve in the Army, waited for an Employ proportionable to his Merit, and the affection the King and Queen had for him: But the Kings death, which hapned when it was least expected, seemed to break all their measures. Several great Princes pretended to the Crown of *Poland*, but the Queen who was still young, hoped that

by her Wit and the Emperours assistance, she might cause a King to be chosen, whom she might marry. Count *Waliski* would thereupon have took his Son home, but the Queen who was still very glad to have the *Palatine* in her Interests, that she might have his suffrage, and support with his Credit the Election of the Prince of *Lorraine*, whom she had in view, being willing to keep the young *Palatine* still with her, who served her for an Hostage of the Fathers fidelity, to whom she made known that she would not suffer the young *Palatine* to withdraw from her Service, without having procured him an Employ of the *Emperour*, wherein he might satisfy his Valour and his Ambition. The young *Palatine*, who was likewise afraid of being removed from *Beralda*, imagining that Affairs would change Face, by the Election of a new King, made known to his Father the desire he had of seeing  
*Germany,*

Germany, and of serving in the *Emperours* Army. The *Count* not being willing to constrain his Son, left him still with the *Queen*. In the mean time, notwithstanding all the Cabals of Foreign Princes, the famous *Sobieski* was elected King of *Poland*: The *Polanders* choosing rather to give their Kingdom to a great General, who had preserved it several times, than to Princes they knew only by reputation. The *Queen* being frustrated of her hopes, went shortly after into *Germany*, and promised *Count waliski*, at her departure, that she would procure an Imploy for the young *Palatine*, who testified an extream desire to make a Campagne, and signalize himself. His Father, who had already taken engagements to marry him to the Daughter of a Senator of *Poland*, and who was one of the most considerable persons of the Republick, was however very willing he should travel, and serve some time.



time in *Germany*. But he served no longer in quality of *Menin*; His Father gave him an Equipage, and sent with him a Governour, who had order never to quit him, but to inform himself exactly of his behaviour. Thus when the Queen was returned into *Germany*, the lovely *Palatine* no longer injoying the Priviledges of *Menin*, never saw *Beralda* otherwise than in publick, and his too vigilant Governour, having him always in his Eye, hindred him, likewise, from taking advantage of all the moments he had to see her. In this extremity his passion inspired him to write to *Beralda*, to acquaint her with the disquiets that this constraint made him suffer; which he did in these terms.

**W**hile that my passion does augment every moment, and that I have a thousand and a thousand things to say to you, I am not permitted to discourse you; I am  
observed.



observed by a troublesome Governour who has me ever in his Eye, and I have not the liberty of looking upon you: and yet I should not be unhappy, if every time I view you, my Eyes do but assure you that I am only full of you, and that my passion will last as long as I live.

The lovely *Palatine* having found the means of having this Letter delivered to *Beralda*, she sent him this answer the next day.

**I** Suffer much more than you do by the constraint we are obliged to live in; for in short all the vigilance of your Governour cannot hinder you from looking upon me when I attend the *Queen*: but I cannot cast my Eyes upon you without meeting yours, which makes me blush, and thereby my heart betrays it self. My *Companions*, who often observe me, do quite disconcert me. I have a hundred times taken resolutions never to look  
upon

upon you more before people, but as soon as you come to the Queens Apartment I am no longer able to stick to what I had resolved, and I love rather to expose my self to the being put out of Countenance, than be deprived of the pleasure of seeing you.

It was by such like Letters that these two Lovers continued their Commerce for some time, but they could not do it with that secrecy as to hinder the *Palatines* Governour from taking notice of it, and as Count *waliski* had charged him to inform himself exactly of his Sons Conduct, he durst not conceal from him an Affair of such importance as that was, and which might have other consequences. Count *waliski* fearing his Son should Imbark in foreign business, and break the measures he had already taken for his settlement, by the Marriage of the Senators Daughter, he wrote to his Son in very severe terms, and threatened

threatned that he would never see him, if he continued his Commerce with his *Beralda*. As the *Polanders* are brought up in a great submission, and respect for their Parents, the lovely *Palatine* was willing to make peace with his Father, and wrote to him a very respectful Letter, by which he assured him, that he would never depart from the obedience he owed him, protesting that the Commerce he had had with *Beralda*, was only an amusement of the mind, wherein the heart had no share ; but that he would continue it no longer, since it was displeasing to him. He had received that same day a Letter from *Beralda*, who made him reproaches that she had not heard from him in some days ; and as he was seldom alone, he was very willing to take advantage of the time that his Governour left him, for the making an answer to his Father, and to imploy part of it in writing to *Beralda*. He sent her  
word

word that he was enraged against his Governour, who hindred him from writing to her as often as he was willing to do, that he however dissembled his vexation, and affected a great deference to the desires of his Governour, hoping that by this Conduct he might oblige his Father to take away that Spye from him, and to leave him upon his own Word; but that she ought to assure herself that she should always be the Mistress of his heart, and that life would be insupportable to him, was it not for the hopes he had of passing it with her, after that he should have merited it by his Services, and his Assiduities.

The apprehensions he was in of being surprized by his Governour, made him Seal up his Letters in such haste, that he put a Supercription for *Beralda* upon that for his Father, and that to his Mistress a Direction to his Father. He gave his Governour that which was addressed to

his

his Father, and caused the other to be delivered the same day to *Beralda*, who had an extreme impatience to see what Reasons her Lover could give to justify so long a silence. Never was astonishment equal to that she was in, at her reading this Letter: Her despair made her take violent Resolutions, notwithstanding the secret resistance of her heart, she determined to break off all manner of Commerce with that perfidious Lover; and two days after she retired into a Nunnery, upon pretexs that are not come to my knowledge.

The lovely *Polander*, surprized at his Mistress's Retreat, would have learnt the Reason of it, flattering himself that he might persuade her from that Resolution: But *Beralda* sent him back his Letters without opening them; and what care soever he took to know the reason of her anger, it was impossible for him to inform himself, being *Beralda* would no longer hear talk of him, he

he was in hopes however that a short time would acquaint him with all, when that he received Order from his Father to quit the Emperours Court, seeing he had no Employ bestowed upon him, and to return incessantly into *Poland*. This order troubled him extreamly, and obliged him to imploy a new his Credit with the Queen, for the obtaining a Regiment, that he might upon that pretext make the longer stay in *Germany*: he wrote in the mean time to his Father, and beseeched him to give him leave to serve some time in the Emperours Army, assuring that he should have very suddenly a Commission to go command a Regiment. Count *Waliski* knowing very well that Love had as great a share as Glory, in the eagerness his Son shewed of serving in *Germany*, and had seen by the Letter to *Bernalda*, the real Sentiments of his Son, did not let him know that he was informed of his Amours, but

sent

sent him word that it was not at all honourable for him, that a Regiment should be so long refused to a Man of his Quality, and that since he was not sensible of so manifest a contempt, he found himself obliged for the honour of his Family to make use of his Authority to command him to depart from *Vienna* the next day after he should have received this Letter.

The young *Palatine* having no longer any hopes of seeing his Mistress again, nor of obtaining the Regiment that was promised him, and having no more good reasons for the deferring his departure, after the order he had newly received from his Father, departed at length from *Vienna*, as ill satisfied with the Court, as the injustice of his Mistress; who continued inexorable and would not so much as hear him named. On the contrary she hearkened to the Propositions which her Parents made her of marrying her to



to a young *German* Lord, whom she received very civilly, as often as he made her Visits; but when they would have taken her from her retreat, to have married that Lord, she acknowledged she had only acted through motions of Anger and spite, and that the lovely *Polander*, notwithstanding his perfidiousness, was still the Master of her heart, and therefore she demanded time. And this new Lover, prepossessed that all Ladies love Glory, went in the meantime to endeavour the acquiring it in the Emperours Army, that he might render himself the more worthy of the Ladies Affections and Love.

As soon as the lovely *Polander* was returned into his Country, his Father, who had apprehended that he would have married *Beralda*, pressed him to consummate his Marriage with the person he had designed him. The young *Palatine* not daring to oppose openly his Father's will,



will, visited *Sylvanira*, (thus was she called) and entertained her according to his Fathers desires. *Sylvanira* remained very much satisfied with this first visit, and was overjoy'd to have a Lover of so good a Meen. The lovely *Polander* being perswaded that *Beralda* was turned Nun, had at first took a Resolution to marry, but never to love his Wife, and always to keep his heart all entire to his Mistreis: However after he had seen *Sylvanira* two or three times, he judg'd that it would be impossible for him to keep his Resolution: And the more that unhappy Lady endeavoured to please him, the less she forwarded her business. In the mean time all was made ready for their Marriage, when the young *Palatine*, not being able to think of deceiving a Person of *Sylvanira's* merit, abandoned himself to his despair, and resolved to go seek his death amongst the Rebels of *Hungary*, who made War up-  
on

on the Emperour: But before his departure he wrote to *Sylvanira* the Letter which follows.

**I** Had resolved, Beautiful *Sylvanira*, to marry you in obedience to my Father; but I had promised myself at the same time never to love you, and to preserve my heart always for the Person I have given it to. But as soon as I knew you, I repented me of my Resolution. I have had an esteem for you, which makes me judge that I could hardly live long with you without changing my Sentiments: Yes, your merit has made my Constancy afraid, and I have chosen to absent my self from you, rather than deceive you, or expose my self to be unfaithful to a person whom I will adore as long as I live. Wherefore I depart less to flye you, than because I fear I should not be able to resist your Charms.

This Letter having been delivered  
to

to *Sylvanira*, she gave notice to Count *waliski* of his Sons departure. The Count amazed at such surprizing News, sent several persons to follow and bring him back, either by consent or force; but he dispatched away at the same time an old Gentleman, who had been the young *Palatine's* Governour, and conjured him not to abandon his Son, and to follow him every where he went, in case he could not oblige him by his Remonstrances to return home to his Father. This Governour having a great affection for the young *Palatine*, took a great deal of pains to overtake him, which at length he effected, after several fatigues. He would have persuaded him to have returned to *Warsaw*; but the young *Palatine* declared to him, that he had a design to serve two Campaignes in *Hungary*, and that he would never return into *Poland* until he had performed some considerable Action.

The

The Governour being not able to disapprove so noble a Design, or feigning to yield to his Reasons, desired his leave to be a Companion of his Fortune, and accompanied him from that time rather in the quality of a Friend, than as a Governour.

The lovely *Polander* was extream welcome in *Hungary* : and the despair *Beralda's* Cruelties had brought him into, made him resolve to make a cruel War upon those of her Nation.

The first Campaign he gave testimonies of his Valour and Courage in several occasions. Several young Foreign Gentlemen, being come into *Hungary* that same year, they formed a Body of Voluntiers, who did surprizing Actions.

Count *Romestein*, who commanded the Emperour's Forces at that time

time, in *Hungary*, imagining that he might by his severities hinder Strangers from coming to the relief of the Rebels, caused Proclamation to be made, that he would make no distinction between Strangers and Rebels, and that he would indifferently cause all those to be hang'd, who should be taken in Arms.

However neither his Threatnings, nor his other Cruelties, did terrifie any of them, the Volunteers exposed themselves no less than usually, and beat his Forces in several Rencontres : Insomuch that this General, seeing he could not Fight them, resolved to surprize them ; whereupon he made a Detachment of his best Troops, and having placed himself at the head of them, he sent some Cavalrey to Forage near the Enemies Quarters, and posted upon them all the rest of his Detachment, with the most precaution that was possible for him.

The Volunteers taking Horse to Fight them, the Forragers run away, pretending to be very much in disorder. The Volunteers pursued them, and being engaged too far, several of them were taken by the Count *de Romestein*, the lovely *Polander* and his Governour being unhappily of the number.

The Count *de Romestein*, through an unexampled Cruelty, caused all those unfortunate Prisoners to be tyed to Trees, and gave order they should be hanged.

The young *Palatine's* Governour, who was already old, did hardly regret the loss of his own Life, his greatest trouble was, to see the young *Palatine*, whom he had Educated, dye after that manner, and who was so dear to his Relations; he had so much affection for him that Death would have been less terrible to him, if he could have  
freed

freed him from so infamous a punishment; it came immediately into his thoughts to inform the General of his Quality, but judging well that the knowledge of this would not suspend his Cruelties, since that he used that rigour particularly to hinder Strangers from coming to serve the Rebels. In this extremity the zealous Governour bethought himself of asking to speak with the General, assuring that he had an Affair of consequence to communicate to him.

The Count *de Romestein* being come to that unhappy Man, he told him, that he did not demand favour for himself, but that he found himself obliged to inform him that one of his Volunteers, whom he shewed him, was a young Lady of great Quality, whom an amorous despair had engaged to seek for Death.

All well-bred Gentlemen have so much veneration for the fair Sex,



that it is not extraordinary if this information inspired the General with curiosity, he failed not however to continue the Execution, and even put to Death the Charitable Governour, pretending he took no great notice of his information.

Coming afterwards up to the young *Palatine*, whom he viewed with attention, his good Meen made him easily judge that the old Man had not deceived him, not being willing however that any Body should know this secret, perhaps that he might the more secretly keep to himself that beautiful Person, he pretended to be touch'd with compassion of the Youth and good Meen of the lovely *Polander*, and caused him to be released through a false Motion of Generosity.

He afterwards received him into his Family, with the same testimonies of esteem, and of consideration,

as



as if he had been his Fathers parti-  
cular Friend.

The Count of *Romestein* had at that time a young *German* with him, called the Baron *Holk*, who was to marry one of his Daughters, and who in the mean time, served as Major General under him; this Baron finding the lovely *Polander* to be very good Company, entred into a strict friendship with him. In the mean while the Count de *Romestein* being pre-possessed that the lovely *Polander* was a Woman, made Love to him, and let him know that he had only saved his Life to pass it agreeably with him.

The lovely *Palatine* surprized at this discourse, would have undeceived him, but the General told him, that it was no longer time to conceal from him his Sex, which he was informed of, and declared to him, that if he did not within

eight days determine to make him happy with a good Grace, he would make use of his Authority, and that he would punish him for his ingratitude, in abandoning him to the greatest Debauchees of the Army, after having forced from him what he refused to his passion, and to the great obligations he owed him.

The lovely *Polander* did but laugh at the Threatnings and Reproaches of the General, nor being in pain to justify that he was no Woman.

In the mean time, the severity of Count *Romestein* obliged the *Hungarians* to use Reprisals upon all the Imperial Officers that fell into their hands: insomuch that several Persons of Quality having been included in this Misfortune, their Relations made their Complaints thereof at Court, for which reason Count *Romestein* was re-called, and another

ther General sent to Command in his Place, with order not to treat the Prisoners with that severity.

The arrival of this new General surprized the Count *de Romestein* extreemly, who judging well that ill Offices had been done him to his Master, went Post to justifie himself, and gave order to his Equipage to follow him by small days journeys. His Disgrace did not cure him of his Passion: for before his departure he recommended to his Gentleman of the Horse, to have a particular care of that young *Polander*, and above all to hinder him from making his escape.

The Baron *Holk*, who retreated likewise by little days journeys, knew the merit of the lovely *Palatine*, more particularly than he had yet done; and was so charmed with his Wit and his Conversation; that he made him several considerable

Presents, and promised to pay his Ransom for him, as soon as that he was returned into *Germany*.

In the mean time the Emperour being very much pre-possessed against Count *Romestein*, would not see him: which obliged him to retire to one of his Countrey-Houses, which he had about thirty Leagues from *Vienna*, where he found the Countess, his Wife, who was a very cunning *Italian*, and with her two Daughters he had, who were perfect Beauties, of whom the eldest was already promised to the Baron, who was extremely in Love with her.

The Count's Equipage arrived at his House almost at the same time as himself, the greatest part of which he sent to another house he had, and ordered the lovely *Polander* to stay there, not being willing he should be seen by his Wife or his Children.

The

The Baron *Holk* at his return from *Hungary*, pressed his Marriage very much; but his Mistress having secret reasons to delay it, desired her Parents to wait still some time; and at length obtained of her Father that it should be deferred for six Months.

These difficulties augmented the Barons eagerness, however his Passion did not hinder him from thinking of his Friends; for after having spoke very advantageously to Count *Romestein* of the lovely *Polander*, he desired him to fix his Ransom, and offered to pay it for him.

The Count refused his offers, and gave him but sorry reasons, to rid himself of his importunities: but the Baron having made new instances to him for the liberty of that *Polander*, the Count acquainted him with his Sex as a Secret, and desired him not to concern him any more

about that Prisoner. The Baron making reflection on the Beauty and sweet humour of this pretended Cavalier, did easily give credit to what was told him, and applying all to his love, and the kindness he had for this Illustrious *Polander*, he imagined that if that beautiful Maid was with his Mistress, she might do him great services, and penetrate into the reasons which obliged her still to defer her Marriage.

This thought flattered his Love and his Hopes so agreeably, that he proposed immediately to the Count that he would take that pretended Maid to attend upon his Children, and that he might ingage him to it for his own Interest, he made him comprehend that this disguised Maid might make her escape, and that besides he would the more easily effect his ends if he saw her every day, than if he left her in the Country, where he could not visit her

often, without causing strange reports in a short time.

The Count finding these reasons pretty good, was troubled only how to persuade the beautiful *Polander* to put on again the habit of his fair Sex, and promised the Baron that he would go see him the next day, and propose it to him.

But the Baron, without waiting till the morrow, went the same day to prepare the beautiful *Polander* to what was desired of him: he immediately reproached him with having concealed from him his Sex, and then acquainted him with the design the Count had of placing him with his Children.

The lovely *Polander* would have undeceived the Baron, but he did not hearken to him, and conjured him to make no difficulty to put on a Womens habit again, since by  
this



(36)  
this means it would be easie for him to render him great services to his Mistress, by endeavouring to discover the reasons which obliged her to defer the Marriage so long.

The young *Palatine* would still have undeceived him; but the Baron interrupted him, and desired him with so much earnestness to do him that important service, even though it were true that he was a Cavalier; that the lovely *Polander*, full of acknowledgments, promised him that he would travel himself for his sake, as soon as the Count should propose it to him.

The Baron retired very much satisfied with this promise, and fancied that the *Polander's* modesty had hindered him from confessing to him his Sex.

The Count did not fail of going the day following to the beautiful  
*Polander,*

*Polander*, whom he found less difficult than usually, for he no longer talked to justify what he was, and far from testifying any repugnance to serve the Count's Daughters, as he proposed it to him, he gave him hopes of making returns to his Love, provided he was not so urging, and that he would give him time to know his Merit.

The Count over-joyed to find that beautiful person so tractable, sent him, within a few days after, very neat Gowns and Petticoats, and that the Countess, whom he knew to be of a very jealous humour, might not have any suspicion of their correspondence, he obliged the Baron *Holk* to offer to her that beautiful Maid to serve his Mistress, whose good qualities he highly exaggerated. The Countess being desirous to manage him, for fear he should be disgusted with the repulses he met with from her Daughter, did easily give her

her consent. Thus the beautiful *Polander* was presented to the Count and his Wife, under the Name of *Eugenia*; they gave a thousand applauses to her Beauty, and caused their Children to be called to see that lovely Stranger: But the Baron's Mistress having a secret vexation, that that Gentleman had took upon him to give her a Maid, whom she already considered as a Spy, hardly cast her Eyes upon her.

*Eugenia*, who had not the same indifference for her new Mistress, viewed her attentively, and easily knew her to be his *Beralda*.

Never did surprisal equal his, he could hardly have concealed it in the presence of the Count and Countess, if they had not ordered her to follow *Beralda*, who at that moment withdrew into her Chamber, where she abandoned her self to Tears, thinking that thence-forward she

she should have nothing free but her thoughts, since the Maid that was bestowed upon her would render an account of all her actions to Baron *Holk*; but perceiving that she had followed and surprized her weeping, she was taken with a motion of anger, which obliged her to turn towards that Maid: Do you already begin to persecute me, said she to her? Tell him who sent you hither, that I will never love him, and if that is not sufficient, tell him that I love an — she did not make an end, because while she had her Eyes fixed upon *Eugenie*, to speak to her, she knew the Face of her first Lover, who cast himself at her Feet, and confirmed to her thereby that she was not mistaken.

They were both sometime without being able to speak, being both equally surprized, the lovely *Polander* to think that he had travelled himself to speak to his *Beralda* in  
favour

favour of another; *Beralda* to see that this dear Lover, who obliged her still to defer her Marriage and to hate the Baron, was introduced by himself, and came to speak to her in favour of him: this disguise which she explained to her advantage, made her judge that he had repented of what he had written, however she did not fail to reproach him with his perfidiousness.

The young *Palatine* being still ignorant that she had seen that Letter, assured her that her reproaches were unjust, since he had never been wanting in his fidelity to her. *Beralda* to convince him took his Letter out of a Cabinet, and gave it him to read. The *Palatine* seeing it, perceived he had put a superscription for *Beralda*, on a Letter he had written to his Father, asked her pardon, and told her such reasons, that he easily obtained it.

*Salmona;*

*Salmona*, *Beralda's* Sister, coming in, interrupted that agreeable Conversation; but she had the address to send her away: after which she hearkned with all imaginable delight to the Adventures of her Lover, and the Crosses his despair had brought upon him.

They had already spent together a whole Afternoon, but they had so many things to say; that they thought they had been but a moment together, when *Beralda* was called to Supper: her Father recommended to her to take care of *Eugenia*, and to shew at least that she had some consideration for her Lover.

*Beralda* promised him that *Eugenia* should have no reason to complain of her, and assured him that she was resolved to conceal nothing from that lovely Maid. At which the Count was very much satisfied.

*Beralda*

*Beralda* having afterward, learn'd more precisely the particular interest that her Father took in the person of her Lover, was afraid that he would at length discover the Cheat, and that it would give occasion to explications that might be disadvantageous to her Honour.

Besides how great soever her joy was to see at all hours a person who was so dear to her, yet her Virtue did suffer extreamly, when she thought of the liberties she had engaged her self to give that young Man, in permitting him to lye in her Guardrobe, and likewise to see her dayly go to Bed and rise.

*Beralda* having acquainted him with her scruples, they sought together for some temperament to save the modesty of the Sex, without the Gentleman's being obliged to absent himself: But not finding any but what might have given some suspicion



suspicion of the *Palatine's* disguise, he knew so well how to represent to her that she ought to look upon him as one that was to be her Husband, and that having a very great esteem for her, he was not capable of failing in his respect, no not in the least things; that at length she permitted him to continue the personage of *Eugenia*, upon condition he would forget that of *Palatine*.

*Salmina*, whom *Beralda* had acquainted with the aversion she had for *Eugenia*, when that she looked upon her as a Spy of Baron *Holk*, was not a little surprized to see that that same Maid was become in so short a time so dear to *Beralda*, that she took delight to spend whole days in discourse with her, being always angry at those who came to interrupt them, she complimented her Sister upon this change, who was at first something disordered, however she told her that she had been so

so touch'd with the Beauty, Wit and good Nature of *Eugenia*, that she could not forbear loving her, being likewise very much persuaded of her discretion. This commendation obliged *Salmina* to come more frequently than she was used to do into her Sisters Chamber, that she might share in the agreeable conversation of *Eugenia*.

*Beralda* being obliged to constrain her self in her Sisters presence, usually amused her self in making *Eugenia* fine, saying, she took an extraordinary pleasure in dressing that beautiful Maid. These little Adjustments, and the joy that the false *Eugenia* had to be always with her Mistress, gave in a short time so great a lustre to her Beauty, that she no longer seemed the same Person.

The Count *Romestein* became so passionately in love with her, that he would two or three times have

carried

carried her away, and have retired with her to a House he had in *Silesia*; but *Eugenia* had the address to persuade him from it, in giving him hopes of making him very suddenly happy.

The Countess who was naturally jealous, quickly perceived that her Husband had an inclination for that Maid, which obliged her to gain, by her liberalities, one of the Baron *Holk's* Domesticks to know from whence she came: she acquainted her that she came from *Hungary* in the Count's Equipage, and disguised like a Gentleman.

Her jealousy made her see a thousand other things, and there needed no more to make her conclude, that her Husband was passionately in love with that Stranger, and that he had made use of Baron *Holk* to present her, for the better deceiving her: from that time she resolved on  
the

the ruine of that Rival, and to succeed the more easily in it, she accustomed her self to caress her, and to do her a thousand kindnesses, desiring even her Daughter to send her sometimes to her Chamber.

In the mean time *Eugenia*, being still pressed by the Count, fearing he would grow weary of those promises, and that his passion would at length oblige him to carry her away, as he had often threatned to do, berthought himself, though with regret, to attack a Maid that was very handsom and very young, who lived in the same house.

*Eugenia* found at first a great deal of difficulty to persuade her that she was of a different Sex from her; but having vanquished that difficulty by very convincing proofs, the Maid was so surprized at this Novelty, and afterwards so charmed with the *Polander's* good Meen, who seemed

much

much more beautiful to her than he did under his disguise, that she promised him at length to make returns to his Love.

Thereupon *Eugenia* begun to give more precise hopes to the Count, and according to the progress she made upon the Maid, she rendered her self the more tractable to the Count: At length that poor Maid was satisfied with having so accomplished a Lover, that she was not only unable to refuse her any thing any longer, but even pressed to give testimonies of her Affection and her Fidelity.

The beautiful *Polander* having given her to understand that his Life was lost, if they were discovered, he made her promise that she would hide her self in the night in *Beralda's* Guardrobe, where he would go and spend an hour with her, to satisfy their passion without noise,

noise, as soon as *Beralda* was asleep, by whose Bed-side it was.

The Maid did willingly agree to these conditions: and the business being thus concluded between them, the false *Eugenia* promised that same day to the Count the same conversation, with the conditions she would have him observe, which were the same he had prescribed to the Maid, having likewise exacted from him that he should put a piece of Taffaty in form of a Masque upon his Face.

The Count over-joyed at his good fortune, being come to the Rendezvous, spent there about two hours, and retired the most satisfied of all Men. This commerce was a long time successful, through the great care that the false *Eugenia* had to take her measures very just, and likewise to defer the interview, upon divers pretexts, as often as she could.

The

The jealous Countess having observed the Walks that her Husband took some times by night, did no longer doubt but that his intrigue with *Eugenia* was at the highest point, and confirmed her self in the resolution she had already taken of sacrificing that Victim to her vengeance without staying to irritate the passion of her Husband by useless reproaches which might make him hate her.

While that the Countess abandoned her self to jealousy, *Beralda* and the young *Palatine* made their passion their continual entertainment, and dayly proposed new expedients, to render themselves suddenly happy ; they sometimes agreed to write to the Queen Dowager of *Poland*, who was newly married to the Duke of *Lorraine*, and beseech her to obtain their Parents consent, a moment after that way appeared to them too long to satisfy their

D                      passion;



passion; and *Beralda* flattering herself that her Parents had a great affection for her, would have cast herself at their Feet, and have avowed to them all the History of her Amours.

*Salmina*, who interrupted them often, hindred them two or three times from coming to a Resolution.

*Beralda* who loved that Sister tenderly, found it much less inconvenient to acquaint that Sister entirely with what passed, than to be obliged to seek still for new pretexts to get rid of her: and thereupon told her the Name and Quality of the young *Palatine*, and made her engage by a thousand Oathes to keep inviolably the secret.

*Salmina* no longer considering the *Palatine* with the same Eyes she had done *Eugenia*, this Gentleman

man appeared to her the most charming of all Men, and what violence soever she used upon her self, it was impossible for her to resist the propensity she had to love him whether she would or no; she concealed her passion with address, and failed not however to say a thousand kind things to the lovely *Polander*, pretending she applauded her Sisters choice.

In the mean time the six months that *Beralda* had demanded to resolve on to marry Baron *Holt* were expired, and her Father was resolved to constrain her to keep her word with that Gentleman.

But the Baron relying much upon the good offices of the false *Eugenia*, desired the Count to use no violence, and to wait still some time, because that *Eugenia* had assured him that *Beralda* had not any aversion for him, but that she would not be

forced, because that being to spend her Life with a Husband, she might have the obligation to him of having chosen him her self, and thereby deprive him of all means of reproaching her afterwards of her former indifference. The Baron having found this way of arguing very just, though very nice, fancied that *Eugenia* would compleat the rest, and did not fail to sollicite her as often as he had occasion to speak to her.

*Salmina* having surprized them together, perceived that the *Polander* deceived the *German*, since he knew him for his Rival; and as she had flattered her self that her Sister could not excuse her self long from marrying *Baron Holk*, she concealed her passion, fancying that the lovely *Polander* would be her Lot: but after she had surprized them in a particular conversation, and that she observed that the Baron was no longer so earnest with the Count for to marry

marry her Sister, she concluded that *Beralda* and the *Palatine* acted in concert to deceive him; which made her resolve to acquaint him with it, notwithstanding the horrible Oathes she had made to her Sister to keep it secret.

The Baron could hardly give credit to the discourse of *Salmina*, but she told him so many circumstances of all that Intrigue, that at length he opened his Eyes, and concluded that all that was told him was true: he found no shorter way to inform himself, and to remedy it, than to complain thereof to the Count, whom he acquainted with all that *Salmina* had told him.

The Count thinking he had a very particular knowledg of *Eugenia's* Sex, treated as a Fable all that the Baron told him; and seeing that he could not undeceive him, he thought he might set his mind at rest by making

him the Confident of his good Fortune. The Baron having nothing to reply against so convincing a proof, imagined that *Salmina* had sought to divert her self, by telling him those imaginary stories, and especially after the Count had offered to cause *Beralda* to marry him on the morrow, if he was not willing to wait any longer.

*Salmina* found the Baron two days after as still as before, for which reason she would have reproached him, but without being concerned, he gave her for answer, that he was no longer minded to be Trepanned.

*Salmina* fell into a passion, and used all her Rhetorick to persuade him that she did not deceive him. But while that she endeavoured to cast new jealousies into the Barons mind, the jealous Countess had ordered her business so well, that she hoped to be suddenly rid of her Rival.

*Eugenia*

*Eugenia* being one day come into her Chamber to make her a Visit, the Countess after having made her a thousand Caresses as her Custom was, she caused a very handsome Collation to be brought, pretending she took a great delight in regalling the beautiful *Eugenia*, and more particularly invited her to eat of a Tart, which she commended extreamly; but whether that *Eugenia* was no lover of Tart, or that her good Fortune hindered her from eating of it, she only thanked the Countess.

The Count coming in at that time from Hunting, came by chance into his Wife's Chamber, and staid there because of *Eugenia*; and as the Exercise he had newly had a Hunting, had given him an Appetite, he fell upon that Tart, notwithstanding that the Countess would have hindered him, and eat part of it: The Countess, who had Poysoned it, designed to take her pretended Rivals

Life away, was so troubled that she had mist her aim, and to see also that her malice fell upon her Husband, whom she had a passionate Love for, that her despair representing a thousand horrors to her, obliged her to eat of it her self, that she might not survive her dear husband: and indeed they both dyed the same Night.

Several Judgments were made upon their Death, but no body penetrated into the real cause of it, which was not known till a long time after by the means of a Chamber-Maid of the Countesses, who declared upon her Death-Bed, that she had made the poysoned Tart by her Ladies order.

Though the Death of these Persons left *Beralda* at an entire liberty to marry her dear Lover, it afflicted her extreamly, and she passed several days without being to be comforted for so sensible a loss. *Salmina*



*Salmina* in the greatest desolation of her Family, was only possessed with her Love, and was continually contriving how to trouble the happiness of the two Lovers: She obliged Baron *Holk* to press his Marriage a new, assuring him that if he did not take care, he would find *Beralda* Married very suddenly.

This discourse put that unfortunate Lover into despair; at first he thought only how to be revenged on the false *Eugenia*, whom he resolved to sacrifice to his Love and his Anger, and finding, though too late, that *Salmina* had spoken to him seriously, he acquainted her with his Resolution.

*Salmina* not being willing to lose the beautiful *Polander*, and who only thought of taking him from her Sister, was terrified at so violent a Design, employed all the address of her Wit to divert the Baron from it,

by making him comprehend that he had no reason to complain of the lovely *Polander*, who had been long in Love with *Beralda*, who had found her again when he least expected, and that besides to put him to Death, would but irritate *Beralda* the more, and give her an invincible aversion for him: she then insinuated to him that it would be much more sure to steal away *Beralda*, and to carry her into some Country afar off, where a short time and his perseverance would oblige her to marry him. That after all, it was only a Crime of Love, which Women easily pardon, when they are well persuaded that the Men have a real passion for them, and that Brutality has no share in those violences.

The Baron finding this Discourse very just and conformable to his real Sentiments, resolved to follow it, and conjured *Salmina* to give him  
her

her assistances for the procuring him success.

*Salmina* pretending that she only desired this business, through the kindness she had for her Sister, and that she was afraid she should lose her, if she should marry a Stranger, whom she would without doubt have followed into his own Country, promised the Baron to act in concert with him, and advised him to dispose in the mean time all things for the stealing her away.

The Baron, who was extremely in Love with *Beralda*, retired very much satisfied with *Salmina's* advice and promises, he caused several *Relais* of Coaches to be ready upon the Ways, and having settled his Affairs, he gave notice to *Salmina* that all was ready, and that he only waited for a favourable occasion to put his enterprize in execution.

*Salmina*

*Salmina* having made known to *Beralda*, that she had a mind to talk to her in private, obliged her to walk with her in an Alley pretty far from their House, and immediately gave notice thereof to the Baron.

*Beralda* not mistrusting her Sister in the least, imparted to her, as they were walking, the design she had of going very suddenly to *Vienna*, and to be married there publicly to the lovely *Polander*, who still went for *Eugenia*, because she was so satisfied with his modesty, that she had permitted him to remain in that disguise till their departure: she then fell to talk of all the other Affairs of their Family, and came insensibly to the end of the Alley.

*Salmina* guessing that the Baron would not be long before he came, pretended to be wearied with the Walk, and desired her Sister to sit down.

They

They were hardly seated, when they observed a Coach and six Horses coming along the side of the Alley, with two Men on Horse-back riding before, the two Sisters would have retired to have avoided meeting them; but they were much surprized, to see that the Horse-Men were lighted, and that they followed another Man who was come out of the Coach, and who walked a great pace after them.

*Beralda* having some secret foreknowledge of her misfortune would have run away, without giving them time to come up to her: But *Salmiana* hindered her, representing to her that it would be uncivil, and that it was without doubt some Gentleman of the Neighbourhood, who came to make them a Visit.

*Beralda* believed her, and stopping, she knew him to be the Baron *Holk*, who after having testified the  
sensible

sensible displeasure that he had of being reduced to the cruel necessity of carrying her away, he assured her that he would be never failing in respect, and told her that he had likewise provided a Woman to attend her and her Sister, that her Modesty might have no reason to complain by seeing her self alone with a Man. At the same time the Baron, and a Man that followed him, took her by both Arms, and led her by force into a Coach, where she found the Woman who was to serve her.

*Salmina* instead of comforting her, burst out into reproaches against the Baron, and so stunned with her Crying and feigned Tears the unfortunate *Beralda*, that it was impossible for her to make her self be understood.

In the mean time the Coach went on, and in a little time was gone out *Salmina's* sight, who returned home

home very much satisfied with the happy success of her Intrigues, and full of hopes that the lovely *Polander* would fall to her share, she retired to her Chamber, with a deplorable Countenance, pretending a sensible displeasure for the departure of her Sister : But she had the Malice to report, that her stealing away was voluntary, and that the Baron had only undertaken it in concert with *Beralda*.

*Eugenia* allarm'd to hear confusedly that *Beralda* was gone to be married to the Baron, run to *Salmina's* Chamber, to inform her self thereof more particularly.

*Salmina*, after having embraced her with testimonies of a perfect Friendship, and a great astonishment at what had newly hapned, caused her Woman to withdraw, and remained alone with the false *Eugenia* : I confess to you, said she to him,



him, that I have been as much surprized as you are, at what my Sister has newly done, and I should never have believed her capable of so great a dissimulation, after all you know she has told me of your Amours, and the design she had of being married to you very suddenly; if I had not seen how obligingly she received Baron *Holk*, whom she had appointed to meet her at the end of the Alley to carry her away.

Dear Sister, said she to me at parting, I am going to be married to the Baron, at one of his Country-houses, because that the Ghost of my Father which appears to me every Night, persecutes me to consummate that Match, and I was not able to tell this to *Eugenia*, whom I had promised my Faith to, as you already know; but, dear *Salmina*, continued she embracing me, if thou hast any affection left for a Sister, who loves thee dearly, disingage my Word,

Word, by giving thy Heart and thy Faith to that Illustrious Stranger.

O ingrateful Woman ! interrupted *Eugenia*, does she believe that people love out of Complaisance, since neither my Services nor the Dangers I have exposed my self to for the love of her, could hinder her from betraying me,

Alas, replied *Salmina*, I find I have a better heart than she has, for though you have not served me as you did her, her Interests are so dear to me, as not to suffer that a person of your Merit should have reason to complain of my Sister ?

The lovely *Polander* making no reflexion on so intelligible a discourse, attributed all *Salmina's* offers to her Civility, and after having thanked her for her kindnesses, he declared to her that he should for ever after despise *Beralda*, and that

that he would depart the next day, to return into his own Country, where he should never hear her mentioned any more.

*Salmina* not having expected such an answer, spoke to him more intelligibly, and proposed to him that if he had no particuar aversion for her, and that he was willing to marry her, she would behave her self in such a manner, that he should never have any reason to regret *Beralda*.

The *Palatine* made no other answer to her, than by a great many Civilities, which signified nothing, which so out-raged *Salmina*, that she resolved to secure him without further delay, for fear he should make his escape: And to do it with the more formality, she wrote a Letter to the Bayliff of one of her Lordships, ordering him to come immediately to her, to secure a Maid who served

served her Sister, and who imagining to take advantage of the confusion wherein the precipitated departure of her Sister had put them, had stolen a Neck-Lace of Pearl of vary great value.

*Eugenia* was seized on the next day, and carryed to a strong Castle, where she was carefully recommended to the Officer who commanded there.

The unhappy *Beralda* was no less afflicted than her Lover, but the Baron to hinder her from having any Commerce with persons of her Nation, carryed her into *Lithuania*, where he lived in great respect towards her, being prepossessed that he should vanquish by his perseverance, and by his respectful behaviour, the aversion she had for him, and that at length she would determine to accept him for her Husband, having no other course to take.

But

But the Air of *Lithuania* being injurious to *Beralda*, the Baron carried her into *Poland*, to a little City not far distant from *Warsaw*, which belonged to one of the most considerable Senators of *Poland*, where they stayed some time, the Baron hardly ever parting from *Beralda*, who was infinitely troubled to pass her Life with a Man she hated, and to hear no News of her Lover, whom she ever loved with the same tenderness, notwithstanding the artifices of the Baron, who had several times endeavoured to persuade her, that the lovely *Polander* had an Intrigue with *Salmina*, that they had both consented to her being carried away, and that they were just upon being married.

*Beralda* being persuaded of the fidelity of her Lover, did not hearken to these discourses: however they failed not to make her restless: She was always contriving to find some

some expedient to inform her self, and ordered her business so well by her address, that she got a Woman on her side, whom the Baron had brought to serve her, and engaged her to carry from her very secretly a Letter to the Senator, who was Lord of that little City where they resided: In that Letter she conjured him to take pity of an unfortunate Stranger, who had had the honour to serve the Queen-Dowager of *Poland*, and that a young wild Fellow had stolen her away from her Country to marry her against her Will.

This Senator, who was *Sylvanira's* Father, and one of the most civil Men in the World, shewed that Letter to his Daughter, who exhorted him to free that unfortunate Woman from the Tyranny of her Ravisher, and likewise desired him to give her a retreat into his House.

The Senator needed not the exhortations

hortations of his Daughter for to do generous actions, caused the House *Beralda* was in to be invested immediately, and went himself to fetch her from thence.

As ill actions are difficult to maintain, the Baron was so troubled at the Senators arrival, that he had no good reason to tell him, to hinder him from depriving him of his Mistress; he assured him however that he had never failed in his respect to her, though he had an extream passion for her, which her Parents had authorized; but that *Beralda's* Father being dead, she would have dispensed her self from keeping her word, which had made him resolve to carry her away, imagining that time and his profound respects would at length oblige her to accept of him for her Husband.

The Senator did not find this Action so very ill, after he had heard his



his Reasons ; he failed not however to tell him, that a generous Gentleman ought never to take advantage of the authority of a Father, to constrain a Maid to marry him, when she had a repugnance to it ; and after some Civilities, he took *Beralda* by the hand, and brought her to his House, where *Sylvanira* received her as obligingly as she could desire.

*Sylvanira*, since the News of the cruel Death the young *Palatine* had been put to in *Hungary*, had retired her self into the Country to free her self from the importunate civilities she would have been obliged to have born with, upon the loss of her Lover if she had staid at *Warsaw* : Thus her own misfortunes rendring her sensible to those of others, she took delight in hearing the recital of *Beralda's* Adventures, she was charmed with her constancy, and shared her Interest so deeply, that she advised her to send a Man into  
*Germany,*

*Germany*, to acquaint her Lover where she was.

*Beralda* followed this counsel, not daring to come out of her Sanctuary, nor return into *Germany*, for fear of being carryed away a second time by the Baron, who did not stir from thence, and still pretended to win her by his perseverance.

Count *waliski*, the lovely *Polander's* Father, was likewise in the Country, at one of his Lordships, not far distant from *Sylvanira's* House: the loss of his Son had so afflicted him, that he shunned all company, finding no other comfort than in his Despair; he had lately made a journey into *Germany*, to fight Count *Romestein*, but at his arrival there he was informed that that General was newly dead, which obliged him to return into *Poland*, very sorry that Death had deprived him of a Victim that he hoped

hoped to have sacrificed to his just  
 grief. His Merit, his Quality of  
*Palatine*, and his great Estate, made  
 him extreamly considered in his  
 Country: Baron *Holk* having heard  
 talk of the Credit and Merit of  
 this *Palatine*, resolved to go ask  
 him his Protection, flattering him-  
 self perhaps that he would cause  
*Beralda* to be restored to him.  
 Count *waliski* received him very  
 coldly, without being wanting  
 however to that Character of Ci-  
 vility which is inseparable to Per-  
 sons of Quality; the Baron ha-  
 ving desired him to give him a pri-  
 vate audience, which the *Palatine*  
 consented to, and very quietly  
 hearkned to the complaints that  
 the Baron made to him against  
*Sylvanira's* Father, who by au-  
 thority had took from him a  
 Maid, whom he looked upon as  
 his Wife, being that Count *Ro-  
 mestein*, her Father had granted  
 her to him a long time before.

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At

At the Name of *Romestein* the *Palatine* quitting his grave tranquillity, interrupted him, and with Eyes inflamed with anger, made him repeat the second time who was the Father of that Maid. The Baron imagining that the *Palatine* shared already his Interests very deeply, told him that that Person was the Daughter of Count *Romestein*, who had served with so much Reputation, and who had lately Commanded the *Emperours* Forces in *Hungary*. Heavens! cry'd the *Palatine* in a fury, I no longer complain of your injustice, since you give me an opportunity to satisfy my Vengeance. Yes, yes, I shall have the Pleasure to Strangle his Daughter with my own hands, since he has had the Inhumanity to cause my Son to be hanged in his sight: Your Mistress shall no longer be in the Power of the Senator, continued he, turning towards the Baron, and I shall take  
care

care that your Rival shall be no more happy than you are. And having said these Words, he left them in a fury, and took Horse to go to the Senators House. The Baron surprized at this discourse, and terrified with these threatnings, and foreseeing that this terrible Protector would serve him beyond his hopes, went full speed to *Warsaw*, to demand the King of *Polands* Protection for *Beralda*. The King being informed of the Count's resentment, and of the great danger *Beralda* was exposed to, writ immediately to the *Palatine*, to declare to him that he had taken *Beralda* into his Protection; and forbid him to do her the least injury. The Baron fearing that the Letter the King sent would not go fast enough, charged himself with the Letter, and carried it with an incredible diligence. Count *Waliski* having learn'd that the Senator was absent, address'd himself

to *Sylvanira*, and after having exaggerated to her the loss she herself had by the Death of his Son, he acquainted her, that Heaven which leaves nothing unpunished, had given him the means of revenging her and himself, by putting the Count *Romestein's* Daughter to Death, and the same kind of Death too as he had caused his Son to suffer; then he told her, that that Maid was the same her Father had given a retreat to in his House. *Sylvanira* being terrified at this surprizing Discourse, would have appeased this irritated Father, and represented to him, that it was perhaps an artifice of *Beralda's* Enemies, that he ought to inform himself more particularly before he precipitated any thing. The *Palatine* pretended to relish these Reasons, promised her he would do nothing rashly; but desired her however to deliver *Beralda* into his hands. *Sylvanira* who had already

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dy a particular Esteem for her, excused her self from doing it, and desired him to wait at least till her Father was returned. But the *Palatine* fearing that his Victime might make her escape, continued obstinate to have her. *Sylvanira* persisted still very constantly not to give her up. The *Palatine* went away in great anger, and threatened to besiege the House the next day. *Sylvanira* prepared for the defence of it with a great deal of Courage, and having sent for in to the House, which was sufficiently strong, Persons whose Fidelity she was very sure of, she caused the Bridges to be pulled up, and the Gates to be shut. Count *Waliski* did not fail to come the next day, accompanied with his Domesticks and several of his Vassals: he would have entered by force, but he was vigorously repulsed. This resistance did but the more irritate his Choler; he gave order



that Ladders should be brought, and was already preparing to Scale the House, when that Baron *Holk* arrived, and delivered to him the King of *Polands* Letter. The *Palatine* not daring to disobey the Kings Orders, abandoned his Enterprize, and went to *Warsaw*, imagining that the King would be moved at his dispair, and would permit him to pursue his vengeance. *Sylvanira* being informed that the Baron, notwithstanding *Beralda's* Cruelties, had done her that important Service, was charmed with his generosity, and from that time had a great Esteem for him.

During these Occurrences in *Poland*, *Salmina's* passion increased daily by the lovely *Polanders* resistance; she had Visited him several times in his Prison, upon divers Pretexes, sometimes employing Caresses, and sometimes threatnings, to perswade him to take her for his Wife. But having a Spirit  
above

above what's common, he received her Caresses and her threatenings with an equal Contempt. This passionate Lady, enraged to see the little progress of her Cares, gave Order that he should be put into a Dungeon, and that nothing should be given him but Bread and Water to hinder him from dying. But her Cruelty had a quite different Effect from what she expected; the Governour of that Castle being charmed with the Beauty of *Eugenia*, and moved at her ill usage without any appearance of reason, one day proposed to free her from that Tyranny, and to fly away with her, if she would permit him to marry her. The false *Eugenia* breathing nothing but Liberty, took advantage of the good disposition of that Officer, and after having ingaged him, for the better deceiving him, never to make any attempts upon her, till that they were Married, she assured

fured him that if he would carry  
 her into *Poland* disguised in Mans  
 Cloaths, that they might Travel the  
 more conveniently, she could procure  
 him settlements in that Country,  
 which he should have reason to be sa-  
 tisfied with. The Officer believes  
 her without further scruple, and  
 having given her a good handsome  
 Suite of Mans Apparel, they depart-  
 ed together, and arrived in *Pol-  
 land* the same day that Count *Wa-  
 liski* raised the Seige of *Sylvani-  
 ra's* House. All the World was so  
 taken up with talking of the Cou-  
 rage of that generous Maid, that  
 they mentioned no other Circum-  
 stance of that Affair: The young  
*Palatine* overjoyed to hear that  
*Sylvanira* was not Married, was so  
 earnest to see her, to ask her pardon  
 for what was past, and offer her  
 his Services in the Affair that was  
 talked of, that without informing  
 himself of any thing else, he went  
 to her House and asked to speak  
 with

with her: Her Servants told her that a Gentleman of a very good Meen asked to speak with her, which obliged her to receive him with a great deal of Civility, but having known again the Face of the young *Palatine*, she was so extremely amazed, that it was impossible for her to speak. The young *Palatine* beseeched her to pardon what was past, and assured her that his Heart was free, and that he would employ the future wholly in loving her. *Sylvanira*, who had much ado to recover from her surprize, guessed that he had been informed of what had passed upon his account; told him that he ought to be very glad that the violent Designs of his Father had not had Effect, since the person he would have Sacrificed to his resentment, was the most perfect model of Constancy and Virtue that was under the Heavens. She therefore told him, without knowing that

that the *Palatine* had Interests in it, part of *Beralda's* adventures, and particularly the constant fidelity she had ever kept to her first Love, notwithstanding the respectful care of him who had carried her away. I confess to you, replied the young *Palatine*, that I am much more difficult to be perswaded in that point than an other would be; for after the cruel experiance I have had of the perfidy of a person I loved, it seems extraordinary to me to see so rare an example of fidelity as that you speak of. I shall be very glad, replied *Sylvanira*, you should see that Illustrious Person. And at the same time she gave order to desire *Beralda* to come to her Chamber, and to tell her that a Gentleman was there whose return she ought to be very glad of. *Beralda* thinking she meant Baron *Holk*, for that *Sylvanira* having a great esteem for him; had given him leave to Visit her sometimes, would have excused her self from

from being seen, upon some slight pretexts. Whereupon *Sylvanira* went to *Beralda's* Chamber, and after having told her that she needed no longer to be afraid of Count *Waliski's* persecutions, since that his Son, who was thought to be dead was newly arrived, she informed her likewise of the particular Interest she took in his return, her Marriage having been long concluded with that young *Palatine*. *Beralda* overjoyed at *Sylvanira's* happiness, made no scruple to appear, being resolved to treat Civilly her Friends Lover. It would be difficult to discribe *Beralda's* amazement when she knew the lovely *Polander*, and the surprize of the lovely *Polander*, in learning that that so faithful person to her first Lover was his Dear *Beralda*. *Sylvanira* being amazed at their mutual astonishment, desired the young *Palatine* to tell her if he knew *Beralda*. But he was so taken up with

with his happiness, that he did not think of making her an Answer. *Sylvanira* however perceived by the joy that was visible in their Faces, and much more by their Discourses, that *Beralda* was very dear to the *Palatine*, and that this Gentleman was the same she had always so constantly loved. How disagreeable soever the personage of *Sylvanira* was in this occasion, her Virtue and generosity made her forget her Interest to share in the joy of those two Lovers.

In the mean-time Baron *Holk* having made reflection, that this Son, whose loss Count *Waliski* so much regretted, was perhaps the same that Count *Romestein* had reprieved in *Hungary*, and who since had given occasion to so many different adventures, informed himself very exactly of the Shape, Age, and Figure of that young Gentleman; and finding that all these Circumstances,



ces, and the time it self of his pretended Death, did sute with the adventures of the false *Eugenia*, which he had learnt from *Salmira*, he went to Count *Waliski*, who was newly arrived from *Warsaw*, told him that his Son was not dead; he maintained what he said with so many real Circumstances, that the Count did hardly doubt of it, and shed Tears for joy: the Baron being moved at the *Palatine's* Tears, commended highly the merit of his Son, and averred he did not hate him, tho' he was his Rival. However the *Palatine* not daring to flatter himself that this good News was true, he was afraid his reason should deceive him, by suffering himself to be too easily persuaded of a thing, by reason he was passionately desirous it might be so. He had hardly the force to come to particulars with the Baron, for fear he should tell him something that would draw him out of so sweet an Errour. The  
Baron

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Baron, that he might perfectly convince him, assured him that the passion he had for *Beralda* was the only thing that had detained him so long in *Germany*. The Count, who was informed of the passion that the young *Palatine* had had for *Beralda*, discovered his Son by that Circumstance, and asked earnestly if he had married her. Alas, replied the Baron, her Parents had promised her to me; I stole her away, in hopes that time and respectful cares would oblige her to consent to be my Wife; I begin to perceive the contrary; and am resolved no longer to oppose her happiness. The Count surprized to hear that *Beralda* was the same person that the Baron had stolen away, and moved with the constancy she had for his Son, conjured the Baron to persevere in those Noble Sentiments, and made known to him how extremely desirous he was to see *Beralda*, and asked his pardon

don for what had passed. The Baron being willing to compleat his Generosity, accompanied him to *Sylvanira's* House, where they arrived just as the two Lovers had done informing themselves of all the misfortunes that *Salmira's* artifices had brought upon them. If there was any Term in our Language more expressive than surprize and astonishment, I would make use of it here, to shew the situation of the minds of the Father, Son, *Beralda*, *Sylvanira*, and the Baron, seeing themselves all together. Count *Waliski* after having tenderly embraced his Son and *Beralda*, was the first to tell them that the Baron would no longer oppose their Marriage ; and that Declaration, which he himself confirmed, augmented the esteem that *Sylvanira* had already for him, and engaged Count *Waliski* to propose a Match to the Senator between *Sylvanira* and the generous Baron.

The

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The young *Palatine* and *Beralda*  
made the Baron resolve on it, and  
two days after the Ceremony of  
both Weddings was celebrated with  
more joy and magnificence than had  
ever been seen in *Poland*. The Of-  
ficer who had accompanied the  
young *Palatine* into *Poland*, recei-  
ved satisfaction for the trick that had  
been played him, by the great libe-  
ralities he had received; and *Sal-  
mina* having been informed of what  
passed in *Poland*, was so much a-  
shamed of her Treachery, that she  
retired into a Nunnery with a reso-  
lution of ending her days there.

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